



*Sebastian  
United Methodist Church*



Rev. Dr. Don Pratt

Music Minister, Megan Mash, MSM

December 19, 2021  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

*10 a.m. Sanctuary*

**Sebastian United Methodist Church**  
1029 Main Street, Sebastian, FL 32958  
772-589-5230 (Office)  
SebastianUMC@bellsouth.net  
772-388-0405 (Thrift Shop) direct line

**Sebastian United Methodist Church**  
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

**Welcome to Worship**

*All are invited to enter God's presence in worship.*

**Welcome**

**Opening Voluntary**

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

arr. Mark Hayes

**Greet Your Neighbor**

**Hymn 184**

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Katie Gowin, Chris Green, Daniel Green, and Connie Judisch

*Sing praises, all you peoples,  
sing praises to the Lord.  
Sing praises, all you peoples,  
sing praises to the Lord!*

We lift our voices with the angels.

**Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

We rejoice with angels and shepherds.

**Glory to God in the highest heaven.**

We anticipate Christ's reign on earth.

**Peace to all on earth.**

*Sing praises, all you peoples,  
sing praises to the Lord.  
Sing praises, all you peoples,  
sing praises to the Lord!*

Rejoice with us, O God, as we join with the angels in song. Open our ears to hear their mighty chorus. As we light four candles, remind us of the joy and promise the angels' song brings. Help us to sing with joy for the birth of the Savior is coming soon. Amen.

**Responsive Reading**

Angel Voices<sup>1</sup>

Just when life seems cosy  
and comfortably predictable:  
**Angels appear unexpectedly,  
and point us in directions  
we would not have chosen.**

Just when we have reached the point  
of comforting assurance in our respectability:  
**Angels appear unexpectedly,  
and pose uncomfortable questions  
we would not have chosen to face.**

And when we have followed the pointings of angels  
and answered their disquieting questions  
and we feel that things can't get any worse:

**Angels appear unexpectedly,  
and remind us that "All shall be well,  
and all shall be well,  
and all manner of thing shall be well."**

For the God of love works to good in all who fear Him.

**The God of love works to good  
in all who dare to listen for angels.**

**Anthem**

"Angels Are Making Their Rounds"  
by Pepper Choplin

Choir

*Angels are making their rounds,  
O what a beautiful sound,  
angels are making their rounds.*

*Fear not, Zechariah,  
for the Lord has heard your prayer.  
Elizabeth will bear a son.*

*Hail, O blessed one,  
you have found favor with God.  
Angels are making their rounds,*

*O my, what a beautiful sound.  
Heaven's glory comes down  
when angels are making their rounds.*

*Fear not, Joseph,  
go and take Mary to be your wife,  
for she carries a holy Child.*

*Unto you is born a Savior,  
glory to God and peace on earth,  
for now the Lord is with you.*

**Reading**

This Year by Ann Weems<sup>2</sup>

**Hymn 220**

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"

REGENT SQUARE

**Gospel Reading**

Luke 2:4-20

**Anthem**

"O Leave Your Sheep"  
by Linda Lamb

Handbells

**Reading**

**Scripture Reading**

Psalm 103:17-22

**Anthem****“Underneath the Starry Skies”  
by Ruth Elaine Schram**

Choir

*Underneath the starry skies,  
there are shepherds watching their flocks by  
night.  
In the sky are angels bright,  
and they’re singing, winging their way in flight.*

*Underneath the starry skies is a stable,  
where a baby lies;  
and the baby cries,  
and the mother sings lullabies,  
underneath starry skies.*

*Angels songs are echoing  
as the shepherds hurry to greet the boy;  
as they run to Bethlehem,  
filled with wonder,  
filled with a hopeful joy.*

*Sleep, my child, and peace attend thee,  
all through the night.*

*Guardian angels God will send thee,  
all through the night.*

*Soft the drowsy hours are creeping;  
hill and vale in slumber deepening;  
I my loving vigil keeping,  
all through the night.*

*Star of Christmas, shine so bright;  
lead us onward, onward to Bethlehem;  
to the child of peace and light;  
to the manger, where we will welcome him.*

*Star of Christmas, lead the way to the stable,  
where on a bed of hay,  
lies the tiny king that the heavens bring us to-  
night, underneath starry skies!*

**Hymn 238****“Angels We Have Heard on High”**

GLORIA

**Scripture Reading**

Revelation 5:11-13

**Reading**What I Want for Christmas by Ann Weems<sup>3</sup>**Anthem****“Angels Visit When We Sing”**

Choir

by Tom Trenney and Thomas H. Troeger

*Angels visit when we sing  
and the morning stars rejoice,  
we can hear them echoing  
in each faithful heart and voice: Alleluia!*

*Angels visit when we sing  
as they did at Jesus’ birth  
and the music that they bring  
links the heavens with the earth! Alleluia!  
Angels visit when we sing*

*and remind us with their praise  
sin and death have lost their sting!  
For the crucified is raised! Alleluia!*

*Angels visit when we sing  
and our hearts are touched by fire,  
as our hymns and anthems ring  
with the sound of heaven’s choir. Alleluia!*

**Reading**The UPS Angel by Ann Weems<sup>4</sup>**Scripture Reading**

Hebrews 1:6-14

## Offering

“Heard About a Newborn King!”

Choir

by David Lantz III

*Heard about a baby born in a manger,  
Listen to the angels sing.  
Heard about a Savior come down to earth,  
heard about a newborn king.*

*Singing glory, glory hallelu,  
Glory to the newborn King!  
Singing glory, glory hallelu,  
Glory to the newborn King!*

*Oh, shepherds, why this festive song?  
Heard about a newborn king.  
Oh, Shepherds, why your joyful strains pro-  
long?  
Heard about a newborn king.*

*Oh, wisemen bearing gifts of joy,  
Heard about a newborn king,  
Worshipping the baby boy,  
Heard about a newborn King.*

*Oh, angels their glad tidings bear,  
Heard about a newborn king.  
Oh, spreading good news, everywhere,  
Heard about a newborn king.*

## Doxology 95

### Prayers of the People

#### Hymn 240

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

#### Benediction

Angel Voices

You speak to your people through angels,  
**Keep our ears and hearts open  
to the whispers of angel voices**

Angels come among us  
and many have entertained them unawares.  
**Keep us watchful and waiting  
for the spirit beings in our midst;  
teach us to recognize them  
in all their disguises.**

Angels come among us,  
their presence comforting or disquieting.  
**Make us sensitive to their presence,  
feeling them guiding us into the future;  
leading us to heaven,  
where we will see and hear clearly  
what we have glimpsed in shadow.**

**Congregational Response 251**

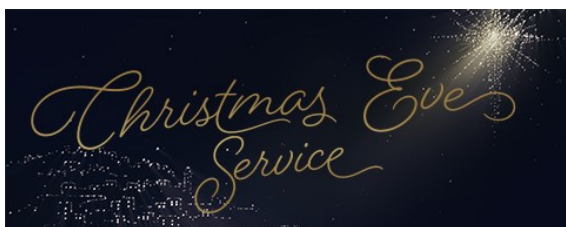
“Go Tell It On the Mountain” (refrain only)

**Closing Voluntary**

*Please remain seated during the closing voluntary, the service is still being recorded*

***\*Please stand in body or in spirit***

### **Christmas Eve Services**



**4:00 pm**—Communion, Special Music, Christmas Message  
in the **Sanctuary**

**7:00 pm**—Traditional Candle Light Service, Communion,  
Special Music, Christmas Message, Candle Lighting—**outside**

**Please bring a lawn chair there will be limited seating available**

Main Street Thrift Shop and Boutique in the Bays will be closing  
December 23 at 2:00 pm and reopen January 3, 2022 at 10 am.

The Church office will be closed December 27 through December 31, 2022

December 26, 10 am Worship—a Service of Lessons and Carols

Fellowship Café on Sunday December 26

**No Fellowship Café** on Sunday January 3



<sup>1</sup>Ruth Burgess, *Candles & Conifers: Resources for All Saints' and Advent*. (Glasgow: Wild Good Publications, 2005). 210.

<sup>2</sup>Ann Weems, *Kneeling in Bethlehem*. (Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1980) p 39

<sup>3,4</sup>Ann Weems, *From Advent's Alleluia to Easter's Morning Light*. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2010) p 36, p 34

## Prayer Concerns and Sharing of Joys

### Concerns

Shelley and Neil Reiche, Jane Hino's Cousins  
Judy Highhouse  
Justin Shaner  
Eileen & Rob Jacobsen  
Mary Lou Cochran  
Cindy Pratt  
Al Smith  
Sandy  
Nora  
Matthew  
Jane Hino  
Mike Kenny, Linda Ballard's step son

### Pray for the Homebound & those in Assisted Living

Minnie Hungerford  
Janice & Ed Ertel  
June Crain  
Carmen Wilson  
Inez Fielding

### Pray for Our Men and Women In the Military

Airman Blake Greishaw (USAF)

Fill out prayer request card in the pew rack, drop in offering plate.

### Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Lisa Davis  
Yvonne Oleksy  
Ed Oleksy  
Marlene Kalsch  
Jane Hino  
Ana Castro  
Jim Schwomeyer  
Sheri Peterson  
Ray Royall  
Mary Jo Barton  
Lloyd Thomas  
Chuck Benjamin  
Sherry and Richard Hunter  
George Decker  
Loretta Scardino  
Ted Amstutz

## Opportunities This Week at SUMC

12/19/21	10 am	Sunday Worship (service is recorded for online viewing)
	11 am	Fellowship Café light refreshments
	1 pm	Brass
12/20/21	9 am-2pm	Soul Café serving 12 pm to 1 pm Meals to Go FH
12/21/21	10 am	Pastor's Bible Study FH
	12 pm	Rug Hookers FH
	12 pm	UMM—Lunch Bunch—Sebastian Roadside Restaurant
12/22/21	3 pm	Joyful Ringers S
12/23/21	10 am	Ben Ashton's Bible Study, contact Ben for the Zoom Link
	2 pm	Thrift Shop closes until January 3, 2022
	6 pm	Choir Rehearsal S and FH
12/24/21		Christmas Eve
	4 pm	Sanctuary
	7 pm	Outside (no reservation needed, please bring a lawn chair, limited seating available)
12/25/21		Merry Christmas
12/26/21	10 am	Sunday Worship (service is recorded for online viewing)
		A Service of Lessons and Carols
	11 am	Fellowship Café FH
	3 pm	LOL Youth YR
December 27-31		Church office Closed

S-Sanctuary, FH-Fellowship Hall, YR-Youth Room, SG-Small Group Room, CO-Church Office, LCR-Large Classroom

### Greetings from Staff Parish Relations

A lot goes into keeping our Church doing all the things we do. We are blessed with a wonderful staff that takes care of so very much behind the scenes.



If you would like to say "Thank You" with a monetary gift (as we do each year) you surely can. Please put your donation in an envelope marked "**Staff Christmas Gifts**" and drop it off at the office. You can also make your gift online as you would your regular giving. Just be sure to mark it "**Staff Christmas Gifts**"

**Peace, Joy & Many Blessings to All**  
**Donna Osborne, SPR Chair**